

Rural District of Warwick.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1939,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

A. TOMES, LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET.

1940.

I, MILVERTON HILL,

LEAMINGTON SPA,

December, 1940.

To the Warwick Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith the Report for 1939, very late owing to delayed arrival of the necessary statistics and pressure of other work.

As instructed by the Ministry of Health, the Report is a short statement of fact with no comment. All the available information is, however, being kept for record and, if required, can be produced.

With many thanks for much kindness on the part of the Council and my colleagues,

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

Warwick Rural District.

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1939				For Birth Rate	15,660
				„ Death „	15,870
	Total.	M.	F.		
Live Births {	Legitimate	189	101	88	Birth Rate 12.9
	Illegitimate	12	5	7	
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births				...	29
Deaths	...	167	78	89	Death Rate 10.5
Adjusting Factor for Death Rate				...	.90
Adjusted Death Rate				...	9.5
Deaths from Diseases and (From Sepsis				...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and „ other causes				...	—
Child-birth					
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births				...	40
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				...	32
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				...	167
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)				...	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				...	—

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) *Public Health Officers*.—A list was given at the head of the Report for 1938.

Mr. J. Bullock replaced Mr. L. O. Evans as Sanitary Inspector, January 25th, 1939.

2. (a) *Laboratory Facilities*.—Bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria	4	26	30
Enteric Fever	—	8	8
Tuberculosis...	1	7	8
			—
			46
			—

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water*.—It was not possible during the year to commence the work of extending a supply of water to Stoneleigh Village, referred to in my last annual report, but I am pleased to report that the extension will be carried out by Coventry Corporation Water Department in the very near future.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—During the first nine months of the year further additions to the Whitnash sewerage scheme were constantly in progress in consequence of the continued development of the district. Similar development was also taking place in the Stivichall and Finham areas of the Parish of Stoneleigh, where new sewers were connected to those of Coventry Corporation.

2. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—There has been little change during the year, as would be expected in a rural district, but a few existing houses have been connected to the sewer.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—Public cleansing service is carried out in eight Parishes by direct labour.

D. HOUSING.

Full particulars of the usual table have been compiled and are being kept for record purposes.

(b) *Housing Conditions.*

3. *Overcrowding*.—There was little change in the extent of overcrowding during the year, the number of overcrowded families remaining comparatively low.

4. *Re-housing*.—So far the parishes of Whitnash and Barford have been dealt with, while the new houses at Bubbenhall were nearing completion at the end of the year, as were also the first 14 houses included in the contract for 74 accepted for the parish of Cubbington. Work in connection with the provision of houses for Bishops Tachbrook and Radford Semele was necessarily postponed.

No decisions had been arrived at in relation to houses for Weston-under-Weatherley and Hunningham, and preliminary work concerned with a site for houses at Rowington was discontinued.

Plans for 18 houses for which assistance under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, had been promised, were approved for various parts of the district, and this included 10 houses to rehouse certain condemned houses in the parishes of Wasperton and Stoneleigh.

4. *Fitness of Houses*.—A survey of the housing conditions in the district has been continued during the year, and houses in the parishes of Lapworth and Offchurch were inspected.

Sixty-one houses were inspected in Lapworth, and extensive repairs were asked for in 21 cases ; 13 of the notices were complied with by the end of the year. 17 houses were considered unfit for human habitation, but the outbreak of war checked activities.

In Offchurch 24 houses were further inspected, 3 were demolished by the owner, who provided suitable accommodation for the tenants. Thirteen houses were thoroughly reconditioned.

To summarize, 99 houses were inspected, 3 were demolished, 33 were thoroughly reconditioned, 23 were in good or reasonable condition, and action in respect to 40 was postponed.

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The position regarding the production of milk remains fairly satisfactory. Seven new cowsheds were erected during the year, five sheds were entirely reconstructed to a modern specification, and improvements were made to other sheds. There is room for further improvement, however, and I again express the hope that when conditions permit more producers will take advantage of the accredited scheme, and that more of the older sheds will be improved.

Many farms have now installed milking machines and sterilizing appliances are in use at practically all farms producing accredited milk.

The County Council have issued 72 licences to accredited producers in this district, a decrease of six compared with last year, and six licences to producers of Tuberculin Tested milk, as compared with eight last year.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1932.

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1933	...	2	28	4	9	—	1
1934	...	9	48	—	11	—	—
1935	...	8	16	—	10	—	—
1936	...	26	23	—	7	1	—
1937	...	11	15	—	20	—	1
1938	...	14	23	—	17	—	1
1939	...	11	47	—	11	—	—

Reference to Table III. will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1939.

School Closures :—

Barford, 1st July to Summer Holidays. Measles.

Stoneleigh, 29th November to 11th December. Scarlet Fever.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
					Non-				Non-	
					Pulmonary.				Pulmonary.	
AGE—PERIODS			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
1	...	...	...	—	—	...	1	—	...	—
5	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	—	...	—
15	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	—
25	...	...	...	1	5	...	—	—	2	...
35	...	...	...	—	3	...	—	—	...	—
45	...	...	...	1	—	...	—	—	1	1
55	...	...	...	1	2	...	—	—	...	—
65 and upwards	...	...	...	—	—	...	—	—	...	—
TOTALS	...	...	6	12	4	1	1	3	—	—

During the year 23 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified, 18 of which were of pulmonary and 5 of other forms of tuberculosis. The following shews in a tabular form the new cases and deaths since 1923 :—

		1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931
New cases	...	24	18	14	16	8	11	19	15
Deaths	...	14	12	8	8	8	6	6	5

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
New cases ...	16	14	8	11	20	20	22	23
Deaths ...	6	7	3	6	6	5	7	4

4 deaths of persons belonging to the District were due to pulmonary tuberculosis and none due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Sanatorium.—During the year 6 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium, and 10 were discharged; none died.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND BUILDING SURVEYOR.

A copy of this Report has been received and is being kept for reference.

TABLE I.
RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.
SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1939.

			Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
				Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...		491	1	68	43
Dairies, Milkshops and	...	...	201	—	57	25
Cow Sheds	...	...		
Bakehouses	...	...	8	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses & Butchers Shops			439	—	2	2
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	45	—	2	2
Food Preparation Premises	...		11	—	2	2
Ashbins substituted for Ashpits	...		18	—	9	9
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...		2	—	1	1
Water-closets	...	...	2	—	1	1
House Drainage	...	...	61	—	32	29
Water Supply	...	...	101	4	12	10
Pigsties	...	...	8	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	...	...	—	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	3	—	1	1
Factories	...	...	6	—	2	2
Shops	...	...	21	—	4	4
TOTALS	...	...	1417	5	193	131

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	...	...	No. 149
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	68
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	17
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	58

E. ARTHUR LYNE, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1939 AND PREVIOUS
YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1933	13,610	152	11.2	9	59	147	10.8
1934	13,740	170	12.4	4	24	128	9.3
1935	14,050	179	12.7	6	33	141	10.0
1936	14,450	171	11.8	5	29	145	10.0
1937	14,780	188	12.7	13	69	159	10.1
1938	15,020	224	14.9	9	40	138	9.2
1939	15,870	201	12.9	8	40	167	10.5

TABLE III.—RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1939.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	11			3	6	1	1		10	
Erysipelas	3				1	1		1		
Scarlet Fever	47		4	30	5	7	1		38	
Typhus Fever										
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia	11	1	2	2	1	3	2			4
Malaria										
Dysentery										
Puerperal Pyrexia	1				1					
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis										
Poliomyelitis										
Encephalitis Lethargica										1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum										
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	18			2	3	9	4			4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5		1	2	2					
Totals	96	1	7	39	19	21	8	1	48	9

TABLE IV.
RURAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1939.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	78	89
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...		
2 Measles		
3 Scarlet Fever		
4 Whooping Cough		
5 Diphtheria		
6 Influenza	2	1
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	1	
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever		
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	3
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases		
11 Syphilis	1	
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis		
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	13	8
14 Diabetes	1	5
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	5	9
16 Heart Disease	21	27
17 Aneurysm		
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	7	8
19 Bronchitis		4
20 Pneumonia (all forms)		4
21 Other Respiratory Diseases		
22 Peptic Ulcer	2	
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)		
24 Appendicitis		
25 Cirrhosis of Liver		
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc.		
27 Other Digestive Diseases	2	1
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	
29 Puerperal Sepsis		
30 Other Puerperal Causes		
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	5	2
32 Senility	1	5
33 Suicide	2	
34 Other Violence	7	4
35 Other Defined Diseases	6	8
36 Causes, ill-defined or unknown		

